

## Kenya Floods Response

Update – 15 June 2018

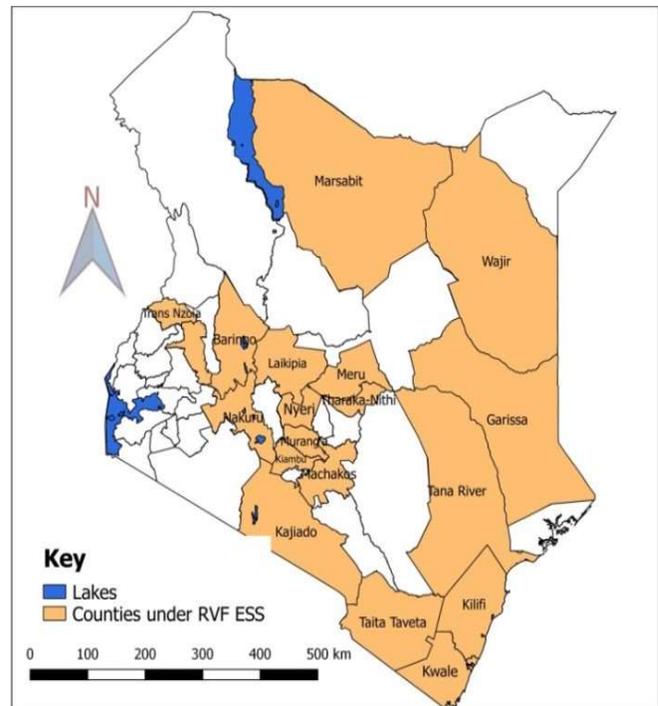
## Humanitarian Situation and Needs

Kenya Country Office

291,171 people have been displaced by floods since beginning of the long rains and many have now started to return home despite their homes being waterlogged and at the risk of disease outbreaks. 108 camps still exist across Tana River county. The Meteorological department continues to issue high alerts for heavy rainfall in Turkana, Marsabit, Samburu, West Pokot, Elgeyo Marakwet, Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gichu, Bungoma, Baringo, Nakuru, Laikipia, Isiolo, Nyandarua, Kirinyaga, Meru, Tharaka Nithi, Embu, Kiambu, Nairobi, Murang'a and Nyeri.

The Long Rains improved the food security outlook for the country but new threats of locust and fall army worm infestations compromise the situation. Marsabit, Isiolo and Turkana counties are the worst hit with over 494,210 acres covered by locusts.

The repair of school infrastructure that was damaged during the floods is very slow. Local partners in flood-affected counties are reporting that pupils are having difficulty accessing adequate sanitation facilities.



17 counties in Kenya have been placed on high alert for Rift Valley Fever which broke out in Wajir, with 19 cases and six people reported dead. This outbreak is one of the consequences of high level of rainfall and floods in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands. Medical and veterinary workers are working to determine the extent of the epidemic and institute localized control measures. Laboratory testing material, isolation and protective material have been sent in Wajir for the response by the government. Kitui, Wajir, Kajiado and Marsabit counties are reporting a high death rate and miscarriages among animals. Reporting and investigations are hampered by logistical constraints such as road access to the affected areas.

Ten counties countrywide are reporting active cholera outbreaks (Nairobi, Machakos, Kiambu, Garissa, Tana River, Isiolo, Turkana, West Pokot, Elgeyo Marakwet). The Tana River county, Department of Water shared preliminary findings of 13 water samples taken from surface water (hand dug along the shores of seasonal tributaries of River Tana). All sites tested showed a positive result for coliform. UNICEF and partners visited camps and villages along the Tana River. Residents reported that water pumping from treatment works by the local water service provider is erratic; this is a key factor making households dig the river bed to find water for domestic consumption. Cholera is also present in Dadaab and Kakuma/Kalobeyei refugee camps and settlement. The main risk factor is contaminated water collected from the nearby open water pans around which open defecation is practiced.

## UNICEF and Partners' Response

UNICEF is working directly and through existing partnerships in affected areas to maintain critical services and scale up to meet the most urgent needs of affected populations, while undertaking rapid needs assessments to identify gaps and expand service delivery where needed. UNICEF also continues to provide technical support in coordination of the floods, Rift Valley Fever and cholera response through its Garissa, Lodwar and Kisumu zonal offices.

- **Health:** As part of hygiene promotion activities, UNICEF developed key messages to sensitise riverine communities. UNICEF also participated in a school health talk held at Adele Primary School. A total of 300 boys, 150 girls and 12 teachers (7 males, 5 females) were reached with key messages on cholera prevention, hand washing demonstration, critical times of handwashing and a total of 345 assorted Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials were distributed.

- **WASH:** With UNICEF's support, 7,500 IDPs in Madogo, Tana River county benefitted from safe water following the provision of water tanks to the camps. In addition, UNICEF is supporting local partners in the same area to truck clean water. A 2KVA generator was sent to Elmarba borehole, Kajiado county, to enable 2,000 people to access safe water for drinking and domestic use.
- **Nutrition:** Malnutrition screening was conducted in 15 IDP camps within Galole, Tana River County. A total of 431 children under five were screened for malnutrition of whom four were identified as severely malnourished, 12 as moderately acute malnourished and 32 at risk. 87 pregnant and lactating mothers were screened for malnutrition – four were identified as malnourished. The identified cases were referred for treatment.
- **Shelter / Non-Food Items:** 2,500 displaced families in Mandera benefitted from family relief kits procured and sent by UNICEF.
- **Education:** 3,600 children (40% girls) in 20 flood-affected schools benefitted from 40 recreational kits in Tana River. The schools also received 20 tents for temporary learning spaces in Tana River County. UNICEF provided technical support for the Western Emergency Hub & West Pokot, Turkana, Garissa and Tana River counties.
- **Child Protection;** 286 children (including 154 girls) in Baringo South benefitted from the distribution of UNICEF dignity kits. UNICEF, Kenya Red Cross Society and Department of Children Services distributed dignity kits in Tana North sub county for 385 children (incl. 240 girls) in Sala IDP site. These dignity kits include soap, toiletries and solar lights.
- **Communication for Development:** 36,704 head teachers of primary and refugee schools received Rift Valley Fever SMS messages on symptoms and prevention of RVF to share with pupils in the schools. These messages included information on how to identify Rift Valley fever, methods of transmission and how children can protect themselves and their families from contracting the disease.

In 2018, UNICEF requires **US\$ 34.2 million** for its Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal in Kenya to respond to the humanitarian needs of children in Kenya because of the ongoing drought, refugee response, inter-communal conflict, disease outbreaks and flash floods. The 2018 HAC has a funding gap of 70%. UNICEF has received \$ 2.8 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) funding to assist flood-affected communities in Kenya.

***The next update will be provided as soon as more information is available.***

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